114. The need for better encouragement for the education of the Mahomedans.

Mr. Kochu Hassan Kunju (Member, Nominated) warmly thanked the Government for the boons conferred on the Mahomedan community by way of fee concessions, educational facilities and liberal official patronage. But he said that the indolent Mahomedan youths required a stronger impetus to induce them to share in the benefits of modern civilisation. He therefore prayed for better encouragement being afforded for their education by (1) the total abolition of the fees up to the Sixth Form, in lieu of the concession of half-rates given at present; (2) conferring yearly scholarships on Mahomedan youths to prosecute technical studies in Bombay, England and other places; (3) a more liberal entertainment of Mahomedans in the public service; and (4) adding one more class to the only Lower Grade Elementary School for Mahomedans in the Quilon Division and sanctioning a substantial increase to the present grant to the school.

Mr. Shaik Mahomed Hamidani Thangal (Member, Nominated) said that, with the Mahomedans, religious education was obligatory. Religious and secular education had therefore to be combined in the case of the community. In most of the Mahomedan schools, except the one at Alleppey, there were either no Munshis for teaching Arabic and Hindustani, or the men appointed were unable to teach those languages. He said that, in order to attract the right sort of men, an incremental scale of pay from Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 would have to be given to the Munshis. In the Mattathibhagom School, though the Dewan in his inspection promised to sanction a Munshi and noted the fact in the visitors' book, one had not yet been appointed and the boys were disappearing one by one. He therefore requested that proper Munshis, as in the Alleppey Special School, should be at once appointed in all Mahomedan schools.

The Member next said that the number of Mahomedan schools was quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the community scattered all over the State. and he asked for many more schools being started in the more congested centres.

Dewan's reply.—The Director of Public Instruction will be called on to report fully on the entire question of the education of Mahomedans in the State.

115. Admission of Eazhavas into the Sirkar Educational Institutions.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan (Member, Nominated) warmly thanked the Government for having thrown open a large number of Sirkar schools to the Eazhavas; but he regretted that the lower subordinates of the Education Department, such as the headmasters and teachers, were not loyally following the liberal policy enunciated by the Government and implicitly carrying out their orders. The orders declaring certain schools open to the community three years ago had become rather cold by lapse of time. The reason generally urged, with a view to shut out the Eazhavas, was want of accommodation in the schools. He knew of cases in which headmasters went to the length of temporarily putting some road-coolies on the rolls to complete the sanctioned strength and gradually replacing them by caste Hindu boys. They also sometimes colluded with the people and the higher educational authorities and shifted the schools from non-objectionable localities to inconvenient ones. As an instance of such transfers of schools, he mentioned the Vadakke Veliyanad school in the Changanacherri taluk. Of the Boys' schools now open to the Eazhavas, admission was practically refused for one reason or another in several of them. He mentioned the following as a few instances, *viz.*, the schools at Thalavadi Thekke Muri, Thalavadi Neerettam, Pulinkunnu Chathurthiakarri, Mancombu, Kavalam, Kavalam Vadakkumbhakom, Veliyanad Kumarankari, Mavelikara, Edanad Vadakekara, Thuravur Eramallur, Kodanthuruthu, Kuthiathodu and Pattanakad.

The Member next proceeded to consider the Girls' schools, and said that the circumstances mentioned by him in respect of the Boys' schools applied fully and with equal force to them also. He mentioned that, though the schools were thrown

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open to the Eazhavas, admission was denied to them in the schools at Thalavadi, Karthigapalli, Muthukulam, Omallur, Edanad and Thaikattuseri. He added that it was by no means an exhaustive list.

To obviate the disabilities referred to, the Member suggested that stringent orders should issue to the headmasters telling them that any excuse on the ground of want of accommodation would not be accepted and requiring them to admit at least *one* Eazhava boy or girl into each of the schools thrown open to that community and report having done so.

As for the Boys' and Girls' schools not yet declared open to the Eazhavas on the ground of proximity to temples or for other similar causes, he said that the community had waited long enough for the schools being removed to non-objectionable localities, but the time was becoming indefinite. He requested that such schools should also be declared open to them without further loss of time.

In regard to the Sanskrit Patasala, he said that the objection urged to close it against the community was frivolous. The place was not really inaccessible to them, and even if so, the Patasala, being housed in a rented building, could be easily shifted to a place accessible to all classes. He prayed that the institution should be thrown open to them ; but if the Government, for any reasons, could not see their way to do that, he requested that liberal grants, not conditioned by the restrictions of the Education Code, should be sanctioned to the Sanskrit schools which the community were ready to open in places like Warkala, Alwaye, &c.

The Ayurvedic Patasala was also situated in a place accessible to the community, though the authorities alleged that it was in a non-accessible loclaity. He said that the institution was specially useful to the Eazhavas, and he requested that it should be thrown open to them without delay.

Mr. A. K. Govindan Chamnar (Member, Nominated) supported Mr. Kumaran Asan in everything that he said. He added that, in the Fort Girls' School at Trivandrum, Eazhavas were not given admission.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panicker (Member, Nominated) spoke at some length about the special aptitude of the Eazhavas for Sanskrit study and the Ashtangahridaya treatment. When such was the case, it was painful that the Government, instead of turning that aptitude to good acount, should close the doors of the two institutions, the Sanskrit and Ayurvedic Patasalas, against the community. He requested that they should be thrown open without delay.

He next said that he also knew of several Boys' and Girls' schools in which admission was denied to the Eazhavas in spite of the orders of the Government. The L. G. S. School for Girls at Chengannoor, the Edanad Vadakekara Boys' and Girls' Schools, the Girls' Schools at Aranmula and Omallur, and the Boys' School at Pandalam Thekkekara were a few of them.

Mr. K. M. Krishnan (Member, Nominated) said that he fully supported the previous speakers. He said that the experiences of Eazhavas in North Travancore were more bitter than in South Travancore. He would add the Mararikulam School to the list given by the other Members.

Mr. C. Krishnan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) said that, in the rural areas, the schools were monopolised by the rich men of the locality and were practically closed to the Eazhavas. He supported Mr. Kumaran Asan in all that he said.

Mr. Govindan Nilakantan (Member, Nominated) said that the schools thrown open to the Eazhavas in other places were of no use to the people of the Thodupuzha taluk. Similarly, even if the Sanskrit Patasala be declared open to them, it would be

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of no benefit to Thodupuzha. He therefore requested that a large number of Boys' and Girls' Schools should be opened in different parts of the Thodupuzha taluk, and a Sanskrit Patasala also established at Thodupuzha or Muvattupuzha.

Mr. P. K. Kochunni Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) requested (1) that the Eazhava children should be admitted in those schools which were now closed to them, more especially the Girls' Schools, (2) that they should be allowed admission into the Sanskrit and Ayurveda Patasalas, and (3) that similar institutions should be established one in each division, or liberal grants sanctioned to such institutions as were started by the Eazhavas.

Dewan's reply.—The Director of Public Instruction will be asked to make a comprehensive and detailed enquiry into the question—so far as the schools not yet open to the Eazhavas are concerned.

116. The disabilities of the Pulayas in the matter of getting admission into Schools.

Mr. Aiyan Kali (Member, Nominated) expressed the gratitude of the community for the orders already issued by the Government for admitting the Pulaya children into the Sirkar schools; but he regretted that the authorities in some of the schools would not admit them in spite of the orders, for some frivolous reason or other. In places where admission was once given to the Pulaya boys, there was no trouble whatsoever for the future. The present condition of affairs in Neyyattinkara, Venganoor and Pullad would bear out his statement. He understood that some of the teachers of certain schools were at the bottom of the mischief, and not the people. He therefore requested that stringent instructions might be given to the Director of Public Instruction and the Inspectors of Schools to enforce the orders already issued.

Mr. C. Saradan Solomon (Member, Nominated) said that, although orders had been issued by the Government for admitting the Pulaya children in certain schools, yet great opposition was experienced when admission was sought for. Such opposition was, in the infant state of their education, a source of great discouragement to the Pulayas. He requested that stringent orders might be issued for admitting the Pulaya boys and girls in the Sirkar schools without any opposition from the beginning of the next school-year, and that their admission into the grant-in-aid schools in his taluk should also be enforced. He further requested that particular attention should be paid in the matter of giving primary education to the Pulaya girls.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

117. Want of Industrial Schools for the poor in Nanjanad.

Mr. P. Arumanayagom (Member, Nominated) said that the poor of Thovala and Agastiswaram taluks were entirely dependent on agriculture, and that, when harvest was over, they suffered very much for want of work, even though they were prepared to work for lesser wages. The Member therefore suggested that an Industrial School might be established at Nagercoil and that the children of the poor and of the backward classes might also be given training in that school.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

118. The need for more Tamil Schools in the taluks of Thovala and Agasteeswaram.

Mr. G. Jesudasan (Member, Nominated) said that the taluks of Thovala and Agastiswaram mostly consisted of Tamil-speaking people, numbering, according to the last Census, 33,963 and 99,956 respectively. There were only 299 and 2,176 Malayalam-speaking people in Thovala and Agastiswaram respectively; but it was noteworthy that there were 15 Malayalam schools, against 12 Tamil schools, in the two taluks. It was a matter for surprise that the Government should have established a Malayalam school in Aramboly, a frontier village which consisted entirely of Tamil-

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